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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
Borough of
Clifton Dartmouth Hardness



A. DICK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

K. E. EVANS, M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Officer, Meat Inspector, etc.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for 1947.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor and Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Clifton Dartmouth Hardness.*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1947.

The Birth Rate was reduced from 17·53 to 15·42, and there was a slightly lowered Death Rate—from 14·70 to 14·37.

Infectious Disease. There was quite a substantial increase in the numbers of cases of Scarlet Fever but not to the extent of becoming an epidemic. An outbreak of Measles occurred outside the administrative area of the Borough.

Diphtheria Immunisation. Fifty-four children aged 0 to 5 years were fully protected.

Ice Cream Regulations, 1946. Mr. Evans and myself made many special inspections in connection with these Regulations. We found the Dartmouth caterers willing to co-operate in improving the standard of hygiene in the preparation, handling and storage of ice cream.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Based on the Registrar General's figures.

Area in acres—1925.

Population census in 1931—6707.

Estimated Population—5706.

Number of inhabited houses, about 1649.

Rateable value—£51,236.

Sum represented by 1d. rate—£205.

Vital Statistics.

	Total	M	F	
Live Births	84	45	39	Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population ... 15.42
	4	3	1	
	—	—	—	
	88	48	40	
Still Births	3	2	1	Rate per 1000 total (live & Still Births) 32.96
Deaths	82	39	43	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated population ... 14.37

Deaths from puerperal causes :

	Deaths	
Puerperal Sepsis	1	Rate per 1000 total (Live & Still Births) 10.98
Other Puerperal Causes	0	00

	M	F	Total
Deaths of Infants under one year :	0	1	1
Death Rate of Infants per 1000 Live Births			11.36

Deaths from Typhoid	—	0
„ Cancer	—	9
„ Measles	—	0
„ Whooping Cough	—	1
„ Diarrhoea (under 2)	—	0
„ Poliomyelitis	—	0
„ Erysipelas	—	0
„ Pneumonia	—	3
„ Scarlet Fever	—	0
„ Diptheria	—	0
„ Influenza	—	0
„ Bronchitis	—	4
„ Other Res. Dis.	—	2
„ Tuberculosis	—	5
„ Syphilitic	—	0
„ Intra-Cran. vasc. lesions	—	9
„ Heart	—	26
„ Other dis. of circ. syst.	—	4
„ Ulcer of Stomach	—	0
„ Diabetes	—	0
„ Appendicitis	—	0
„ Other digve. dis.	—	2
„ Nephritis	—	0
„ Con. Mal. birth Inj. infant	—	0
„ Puerperal Causes	—	1
„ Violent Causes	—	2
„ All other causes	—	6
„ Suicide	—	3
„ Road Traffic	—	1

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 9 Wholesale Producers and 13 Retailers registered. Dairies have been inspected 27 times and Cowsheds 15 times.

Slaughterhouses.

There are 2 licensed slaughterhouses (closed since control by M. of F.) and a public abattoir. (See Meat Inspection).

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

(a)	Council Houses Infested	...	...	0
(b)	Other Houses Infested	...	...	6
(c)	Disinfestation	...	...	6
	Bedding, etc. destroyed	...	...	6

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

National Advisory Milk Testing Scheme.

Sampling for cleanliness testing continues to be undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Periodic sampling for presence of Tubercle infection has been commenced. All samples have been negative.

Water Supplies.

Supply has been adequate. Chlorination has been continued at the main source as a final treatment after filtration, but owing to subsequent mixing by smaller untreated auxiliary supplies, satisfactory chlorination of the final water is very difficult. Frequent tests for residual chlorine in the tap water have been made.

The Water Engineer has continued the practice of taking samples monthly for bacteriological examination.

Housing.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects	...	...	125
Number of houses in which defects were remedied by Informal Notices	...	...	81

Action under Statutory Powers.

No. of houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repair under Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	0
No. rendered fit after service of Statutory Notice :				
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default	...	...	...	0
No. of houses in respect of which Notices were served under Public Health Act	...	...	...	26
No. of houses in which defects were remedied after service of Statutory Notice :				
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	26
(b) By Local Authority in default	...	...	...	0
Numbers of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	2
Number of parts of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	1

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

	No. of Inspection tions	No. of Written Notices	No. of Prosecu- tions
Factories (with Mechanical Power)	5	0	0
Factories (without Mechanical Power)	3	0	0
	8	0	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hosp.
Scarlet Fever	16	6
Chickenpox	8	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0
Pneumonia	2	0
Erysipelas	0	0
Measles	35	0
Whooping Cough	4	0
Malaria	0	0
Dysentery	1	0
	66	6

CASES ADMITTED TO ISOLATION HOSPITAL, KINGS ASH,
PAIGNTON, from Dartmouth Borough during 1947 :

Total number of cases : 6 Scarlet Fever.

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases on the Register at the end of the year was :—

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Pulmonary	...	19	19	38
Non-Pulmonary	...	4	4	8

There were 6 new notifications of Pulmonary and 1 of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DICK,

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health and

Medical Officer of the Infant Welfare Centre.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1947.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

No. of food animals slaughtered at the	
Abattoir	6549

Amount charged to the Ministry for	
slaughtering and rental of offices	£351 1 9

Weight of meat condemned :

Carcases and parts	34,425 lbs.
Offal	21,356 lbs.

Total 55,781 lbs

		% Affected with T.B.
No. of cows inspected	550	21.5
No. of cattle x cows inspected	451	7.1

Causes of Condemnation. Tuberculosis, Fevered Flesh, Oedema, Immaturity Emaciation, Pyæmia, Bruising, Congestion, Parasitic Invasion, Septic Pleurisy, Caries, Moribund, Angioma, Cirrhosis, Pneumonia, Abscesses.

OTHER FOODS.

Tinned meat, fish, tinned milks, etc. :

Weight condemned, 1314 lbs.

